Commissioner for Patents
Page 11

Serial No.: 09/974,907

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Response to Amendment

The Office Action reports that in the Amendment of February 3, 2005, the Applicant indicated an amendment to paragraph [0011] of the specification; however, the amended paragraph was unchanged from the originally filed paragraph. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In the Amendment filed, the word "minimizes" in line 2 of paragraph [0011] is amended to read—minimize—.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7, 10-13, 17-22, 26-28 and 31 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Lu et al.

Applicant respectfully disagrees that Lu et al. teach or suggest each of the features of the rejected claims. Nonetheless, Applicant is desirous of issuing a patent for this invention and has therefore accepted the subject matter deemed allowable. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application to pursue subject matter of the cancelled claims.

In view of the amendments to the claims, claims 1, 4, 6, 7 and 18-19 are cancelled. Claims 8 and 23 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of the cancelled claims. Claims 2, 5, 7, 10, 19 and 26 are amended to correct dependencies.

Claim 31 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 4, 6 and 8.

In view of these amendments, claims 2-3, 5, 8-17, and 20-31 which remain pending in this application are considered to be in a condition for immediate allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MRW/st

Address:

Ogilvy Renault

1981 McGill College Avenue

Suite 1600

Montreal, QC H3A 2Y3

Max R/Wood

Registration No. 40,388 Attorney for Applicant

DOCSOTT: 416745\1